What is claimed is:

1. A process for producing preferential damage to hair exiting mammalian skin through a hair duct, the hair growing in a hair follicle and having a hair shaft and a hair bulb, the process comprising:

selecting an agent having an average diameter for enabling the agent to penetrate the hair duct, the agent comprising a material for at least one of attaching to and becoming physically incorporated into at least one of the hair shaft, the hair follicle, the hair bulb and the hair duct, the agent having an electromagnetic radiation absorption characteristic for enabling the agent to absorb at least a first wavelength of electromagnetic radiation from a skin-penetrating electromagnetic radiation source,

applying the agent to the skin so that the agent penetrates the skin and at least one of attaches to and becomes physically incorporated into at least one of the hair shaft, the hair follicle, the hair bulb and the hair duct, and

exposing the agent to at least a first wavelength of electromagnetic radiation, whereby the agent absorbs the first wavelength of electromagnetic radiation.

2. The process of claim 1, wherein the agent has an average diameter of about one micron.

3. The process of claim 1, comprising the step of encapsulating the agent in a microencapsulation vehicle.

4. The process of claim 3, wherein the microencapsulation vehicle has an average diameter of about five microns.

5. The process of claim 1, comprising the step of exposing the skin to at least one enzyme.

6. The process of claim 1, comprising the step of exposing the skin to ultrasound.